

## Public Outreach

This fact sheet describes the Office of Legacy Management's (LM) public outreach principles and approaches to ensure the public and other interested parties are informed of LM's activities and plans. An active public involvement promotes understanding of, and encourages informed participation in, the process by the public.

### What is the Office of Legacy Management?

The mission of LM, which was established by the Department of Energy (DOE) in December 2003, is to ensure that DOE's legacy responsibilities are managed in a manner that best serves DOE's workers, communities, and the environment. Further information regarding LM's mission, vision, and strategy is available in the *Office of Legacy's Management Strategic Plan* (dated July 2004).

LM currently has the following major functions:

- Land and Site Management
- Site Transition
- Pensions and Medical Benefits for retired contractor workers
- Stakeholder Relations
- Records Management and IT
- Property Management and Community Assistance

### LM's Public Outreach Principles

LM conducts its public outreach activities in accordance with the existing DOE Policy (DOE P 1210.1). Within this framework, LM's goal is to ensure stakeholders are adequately involved in the process and informed of LM's plans and actions.

LM recognizes that its mission cannot be successfully achieved without input from state and local governments, Tribal Nations, and stakeholders. Thus, LM will aggressively pursue credible, effective public participation processes into LM's program operations, plans and decision-making efforts.

### Why is Public Outreach Important?

DOE is dedicated to protecting human health and the environment from residual hazards and to meeting its commitment to the environment, our stakeholders, and our workers – past and present. DOE will carry out its responsibilities to the former workers and communities following the completed remediation and closure of sites. The continued involvement is critical to meeting these responsibilities. To this end, LM will vigorously promote an effective mechanism that provides for, and encourages, active public participation.

### Public Outreach During Transition

LM will communicate regularly with local stakeholders, Tribal Nations, and local governments regarding the status and plans for the transition of the sites. LM will encourage and solicit public participation regarding the approaches to public involvement, including the development of the public outreach strategy that will be included.

During this transition period, LM's communication approach includes, but is not limited to, informal conversations, written electronic communication, scheduled meetings and workshops (e.g., participation in Citizen Advisory Board meetings), and legally required hearings. In addition, LM will take the following specific actions:

- The Site Transition Coordinator, the LM manager with responsibility for overseeing the transition, will participate in local stakeholder meetings on at least a quarterly basis to communicate status of transition activities, plans and issues.

- For certain sites, LM will hire local staff to provide timely interaction with stakeholders Tribal Nations, and local governments.
- LM will solicit input on what approaches to public involvement are needed.
- LM will solicit public comment during the development of the Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance (LTS&M) Plan. The LTS&M Plan identifies specific actions that will be taken to maintain the protection of human health and the environment for the environmental remedies and to manage the natural, cultural and historical resources for the site (see *LTS&M Plan* fact sheet).

### **Public Outreach During Post-Closure**

Once the site is transferred to LM, the extent of public outreach will be appropriate for the level of decision-making at the site.

LM will ensure public concerns are addressed by taking the following measures:

- The LTS&M Plan will include the approach to public involvement for the period following transfer to LM.
- LM will provide local access to Administrative Record, if any.
- Provide other site information essential to the protection of human health and the environment (e.g., Geospatial Environmental Mapping System for environmental Data and Hummingbird Records Management System for records.) LM will ensure that important environmental information can be accessed on the web.

Furthermore, LM will provide information (e.g., through stakeholder meetings) to the public regarding its regular inspections.

### **How Does LM Communicate with the Public?**

LM's communication with the public includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- LM's web site at <http://www.lm.doe.gov/>
- Fact sheets that describe LM's activities and policies

- Scheduled meetings and workshops, such as participation in site Citizen Advisory Board meetings.
- Mailing list of interested parties.
- Quarterly newsletter, Program Update, highlights LM's activities for that quarter and is distributed to all addressees on LM's mailing list.
- Circulation for review of draft planning documents.
- Relationships and communications with Tribal Nations, national stakeholder organizations, state and local governments, local organizations, and individuals.

As stated above, for certain sites, LM will provide local staff to support interactions with stakeholders, Tribal Nations, and local governments.

### **How Do I Communicate with LM?**

There are a variety of ways in which you may communicate with LM, including the following:

- Participate in the existing public participation processes and meetings.
- Sign up for the mailing list via [www.lm.doe.gov](http://www.lm.doe.gov) and click on "webmaster" so that you will know about opportunities to input, such as commenting on draft planning documents and attend public meetings.
- Contact the LM representative for the site or LM at DOE Headquarters in Washington, DC.
- Review and provide comments on key documents (e.g., Site Transition Plan, LTS&M Plan) as they are developed. For example, the LTS&M Plan describes the public outreach strategy for the period following transition.

#### **For additional information, please contact:**

Mr. Tony Carter ([tony.carter@hq.doe.gov](mailto:tony.carter@hq.doe.gov))  
Acting Director  
Office of Stakeholder Relations  
Office of Legacy Management  
(202) 586-3323